

Evening Public Ledger THE EVENING TELEGRAPH PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY C. CURTIS, PRESIDENT...

THE ISSUES OF 1920

They Are Likely to Cut Across Old Party Lines and Make the Result of the Election Uncertain

UNDER normal conditions the voters have usually decided by the middle of a presidential term whether they wish to retain in power the party of the President.

But conditions at present are not normal. No one knows what is to happen between now and the assembling of the presidential conventions in 1920.

While some tentative issues are framing themselves, the nation as a whole is suspending judgment on them until it knows more about them.

One man's guess is as good as another's, because nobody knows anything about it.

The Paris interview of Senator Lewis, printed in this newspaper yesterday, setting forth what the Illinoisan thinks will be the issues in the next presidential campaign is interesting chiefly because it epitomizes the opinion of many men who have been giving some thought to the matter.

Nevertheless, it serves a good purpose, because it will set the voters to thinking and may assist them in forming opinions which they can express at the polls when the time comes.

Senator Lewis thinks that the decision will come in the form of the acceptance or rejection of the policy of entering into alliances, offensive and defensive, with other nations.

There has already been gossip in the London dispatches about a possible alliance between this country and Great Britain. The Senator thinks that the Democratic candidate for the presidency will come from the West, and that the West will be opposed to any change in our historical policy.

As to the domestic issues the Senator places government ownership of railroads and telephones and government insurance first. These issues will cut across the old party lines and make forecasting about their endorsement or rejection exceedingly difficult.

There are small groups of thinkers committed to both sides of these questions, but the great mass of voters are open-minded. They are willing to be shown, and they will judge by the outcome of the experiment now making.

We think, however, that Mr. Lewis has guessed wrong when he says that the tariff has disappeared from politics and has become merely "a matter of international bookkeeping."

All the signs indicate that it is likely to become one of the most pressing questions in international politics and so will react on national politics. There is involved in it the after-the-war commercial relations between the Germans and the nations of the Entente now fighting them.

At the same time Haig is striking heavily along the Aene north of Albert. This is only some thirty miles northwest of Noyon, and if the English should get through to Bapaume the whole Somme Valley from Bray to Peronne will be in danger.

What we are expecting to see in the course of the next few weeks (or days) is a very vigorous offensive on the part of the American troops along the Vesle. Any blow struck northward across the Aisne would render the whole German salient in Picardy additionally uncomfortable for the Kaiser's command, however skilled it may be in backward tactics.

MUNSTRELSY THE death of Hughie Dougherty by no means terminates the influence of minstrelsy, of which for more than half a century the Philadelphia comedian was a gleeful exponent.

The prime intent of minstrelsy was, of course, sheer fun. But it was fun of a singularly bold and racy sort; fun which behind all its satiric extravagance was essentially keen and discerning.

His weapon was laughter. By its employment he fostered in us a habit of humorous yet immensely helpful self-examination that is today perhaps more profusely cultivated in this country than anywhere else in the world.

Adventures at Eddystone

By ROY HELTON

Inside the Shop

ONE hangs his brass check on the section board and proceeds down through the long rooms past piles of saws, without boards and long racks of half-finished gun stocks into his own shop, where, stripping off his once comely outer garments, he hangs his shirt and trousers on a nail, and moves over to his machine.

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I HAD no word of welcome from any man in the shop, save the boss, and yet those fellows, speeding up to the highest point of endurance on piecework, have stopped and broken their stride of production to talk to me, but to do things—to show me the right way, to run through a bit of my work for me, while their own was waiting.

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GRADUALLY SOAKING IN



THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

It Now Exists Among the Allies Fighting Germany

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Under the headline, "The League of Nations," Mr. Konkole expresses an aspiration that is quite prevalent among the nations comprising our allies.

The Destroyer's Crew

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Much has been written in prose and verse about the army, and rightly so; but for some reason or other the poor old navy never comes in for much credit.

The Destroyer's Crew

They needn't climb at their sleeping time To a hammock that sways and bumps; They leap, perk up! in a cozy bunk That quivers and bucks and jumps.

What Do You Know?

1. Where is Lake Balkha? 2. What is a whistletail? 3. What is the name of Maurice Maeterlinck?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

1. Babu, recently reached by a British expeditionary force, is a part of the western coast of India.

A Tribute From Our Allies

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Le Figaro of July 20, 1918, gives the following as an extract from Le Gaulois of same date:

The Americans

All accounts arriving from the field of battle show them playing with danger, as though they grudge not having braved it.

STUBBY JONES, EXEMPT

CONGRESSMEN unmiling. Who call stern duty king! When taxes you are piling, Pass by one precious thing. Go tax the palaces awhel, The Midas family owns, But do not tax the pushmouls That's run by Stubby Jones!

O Solons of the Senate! O financiers profound! Tax tales by Arnold Bennett; Tax comes by Ezra Pound; Tax beer and beans and veils and veal; Tax Coney ice-cream cones; But do not tax the pushmouls That's run by Stubby Jones!

Tax patriotic ballads; Tax all the wartime plays; Tax syllabus and salads; Tax ace-ful-on-trees; Tax every